

NORDSON CORP
Form 11-K
June 27, 2018
Table of Contents

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 11-K

(Mark one)

ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the transition period from _____ to _____

Commission file number 0-7977

A. Full title of the plan and the address of the plan, if different from that of the issuer named below:
NORDSON EMPLOYEES SAVINGS TRUST PLAN

- B. Name of issuer of the securities held pursuant to the plan and the address of its principal executive office:
Nordson Corporation, 28601 Clemens Road, Westlake, Ohio 44145

Table of Contents

INDEX

	Page
<u>Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm</u>	
Financial Statements:	
<u>Statement of Net Assets Available for Benefits</u>	2
<u>Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits</u>	3
<u>Notes to Financial Statements</u>	4 - 13
Supplemental Schedules:	
<u>Schedule of Assets Held for Investment Purposes at End of Year</u>	14
<u>Schedule of Reportable Transactions</u>	15
<u>Schedule of Delinquent Contributions</u>	16

Table of Contents

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the Plan Administrator, Retirement Committee, and Plan Participants

Nordson Employees Savings Trust Plan

Westlake, Ohio

Opinion on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying Statement of Net Assets Available for Benefits of the Nordson Employees Savings Trust Plan (Plan) as of December 31, 2017 and 2016, and the related Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits for the years then ended, and the related notes and supplemental schedules (collectively referred to as the financial statements). In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the net assets available for benefits of the Plan as of December 31, 2017 and 2016 and the changes in net assets available for benefits for the years then ended, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

These financial statements are the responsibility of the Plan s management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Plan s financial statements based on our audits. We are a public accounting firm registered with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (PCAOB) and are required to be independent with respect to the Plan in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audits to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud.

Our audits included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. Our audits also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

Supplemental Information

The supplemental Schedule of Assets Held for Investment Purposes at End of Year as of December 31, 2017, Schedule of Reportable Transactions for the year ended December 31, 2017, and Schedule of Delinquent Contributions for the year ended December 31, 2017, have been subjected to audit procedures performed in conjunction with the audit of the Plan s financial statements. This supplemental information is the responsibility of the Plan s management. Our audit procedures included determining whether the supplemental information reconciles to the financial statements or the underlying accounting and other records, as applicable, and performing procedures to test the completeness and accuracy of the information presented in the supplemental information. In forming our opinion on the supplemental information, we evaluated whether the supplemental information, including its form and content, is presented in conformity with Department of Labor s (DOL) Rules and Regulations for Reporting and

Edgar Filing: NORDSON CORP - Form 11-K

Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974. In our opinion, the supplemental information is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

/s/ Meaden & Moore, Ltd.

We have served as the Plan's auditor since 2006.

Cleveland, Ohio

June 27, 2018

Table of Contents

STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS

Nordson Employees Savings Trust Plan

	December 31	
	2017	2016
ASSETS		
Investments, at fair value	\$ 520,992,073	\$ 441,925,582
Receivables:		
Employee contributions	159	
Employer contributions	236,306	176,268
Notes receivable from participants	7,600,368	7,490,610
Dividends	180,704	173,305
Total Receivables	8,017,537	7,840,183
TOTAL ASSETS	529,009,610	449,765,765
LIABILITIES		
NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS	\$ 529,009,610	\$ 449,765,765

See accompanying notes.

Table of Contents

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS

Nordson Employees Savings Trust Plan

	Year Ended December 31	
	2017	2016
Additions to Net Assets Attributed to:		
Contributions:		
Employer	\$ 6,248,386	\$ 5,706,202
Employee	18,057,543	16,620,081
Rollover	2,070,490	1,012,464
Total Contributions	26,376,419	23,338,747
Interest income notes receivable from participants	341,818	327,555
Investment Income:		
Interest and dividend income	26,075,932	18,832,007
Net unrealized/realized appreciation	54,222,146	35,734,667
Net Investment Income	80,298,078	54,566,674
Deductions from Net Assets Attributed to:		
Benefits paid to participants	28,341,400	27,809,072
Expenses	329,083	357,482
Total Deductions	28,670,483	28,166,554
Net Increase Before Transfers	78,345,832	50,066,422
Transfers from Another Plan:		
Nordson Corporation Non-Union Employees Stock Ownership Plan	898,013	431,995
MatriX-FocalSpot, Inc. 401(k) Plan		503,033
Total Transfers	898,013	935,028
Net Increase	79,243,845	51,001,450
Net Assets Available for Benefits:		
Beginning of the Year	449,765,765	398,764,315
End of the Year	\$ 529,009,610	\$ 449,765,765

See accompanying notes.

Table of Contents

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Nordson Employees Savings Trust Plan

1 Description of Plan

The following description of the Nordson Employees Savings Trust Plan (Plan) provides only general information. Participants should refer to the Plan document for a complete description of the Plan s provisions.

General:

The Plan, which began March 16, 1962, is a defined contribution plan covering certain salaried, full-time and part-time, domestic employees of Nordson Corporation (Company). It is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

The Plan was restated effective January 1, 2016 to incorporate all prior amendments and to state the terms of the related trust in a separate agreement.

Effective January 1, 2016, employees of MatriX-FocalSpot, Inc. became participants in the Plan and on October 3, 2016, the assets of MatriX-FocalSpot, Inc. 401(k) Plan were merged into the Plan.

The Plan was amended December 1, 2017 to add Roth contributions and Roth conversion contributions.

Eligibility:

All salaried and non-union hourly domestic employees of the Company are eligible to become active participants in the Plan effective beginning with the first payroll period after completion of one hour of service.

Contributions:

Participants may elect between 1% and 30% of their compensation to be contributed to the Plan by the Company. Effective December 1, 2017, participant contributions can be designated as a Roth contribution, a pre-tax contribution or a combination of the two types of participant contributions. Certain higher-paid participants may be limited to a lesser percentage. New employees will be auto-enrolled into the Plan after 30 days of employment with pre-tax contributions of 3% of their compensation.

Participant pre-tax contributions are automatically increased by 1% each year until a contribution rate of 6% is reached. The automatic enrollment provision does not apply to Roth 401(k) contributions. Participants can opt out of the automatic increase program.

Table of Contents

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Nordson Employees Savings Trust Plan

1 Description of Plan, Continued

Contributions, Continued:

Post-tax Employee Contribution Participants may elect between 1% and 5% of their compensation to be contributed to the Plan by the Company. Certain higher-paid participants may be limited to a lesser percentage.

Total pre-tax, Roth and post-tax employee contributions may not exceed 30%.

Employer Contributions The Company makes contributions equal to 50% of each participant's contributions, which were attributable to the first 6% of compensation, subject to Plan restrictions.

The Company may also make additional discretionary contributions, if authorized by its Board of Directors.

Rollover contributions from other plans are also accepted, provided certain specified conditions are met.

Contributions are subject to limitations on annual additions and other limitations imposed by the Internal Revenue Code, as defined in the Plan agreement.

Participants Accounts:

A separate account in each fund is maintained for each participant. The account balances for participants are adjusted periodically as follows:

- a) As of the date with respect to which the contribution was earned.
- b) Daily for a pro rata share of each respective fund's net investment income, determined by the percentage increase or decrease in the value of the fund.
- c) Annually for a pro rata share of forfeitures, determined by the ratio that each active participant's deferral or contribution percentage in effect on the last day of the Plan year (not to exceed 6%) bears to the sum of the deferral or contribution percentages for all active participants.

Vesting:

Participants are fully vested in all employee contributions and rollover contributions and the related gains and losses. Participants vest in employer contributions (adjusted for gains and losses) 33 1/3% for each year of service.

Table of Contents

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Nordson Employees Savings Trust Plan

1 Description of Plan, Continued

Forfeitures:

Forfeitures due to termination from the Plan before a participant is 100% vested shall be allocated to remaining participants. Forfeitures are available for allocation after the earlier of a five-year period commencing from the date on which the participant's employment was terminated or upon the participant requesting a distribution. Forfeitures available to be allocated are fully allocated to the remaining participants. Forfeitures allocated were \$67,942 (2017) and \$69,665 (2016). Forfeitures available to be allocated were \$106,909 (2017) and \$67,957 (2016).

Notes Receivable from Participants:

Notes receivable are permitted under certain circumstances and are subject to limitations. Participants may borrow from their fund accounts up to a maximum amount equal to the lesser of \$50,000 or 50% of their vested account balance. Notes receivable are repaid over a period not to exceed five years.

The notes receivable are secured by the balance in the participant's account and bear interest at rates established by the Company. Principal and interest are paid ratably through payroll deductions.

Payment of Benefits:

Upon retirement after age 55 or death or disability, if earlier, the balance in the separate account is paid to the participant or his beneficiaries either in a lump sum or in installments. A participant who has attained age 59 1/2 can also elect to withdraw amounts from his separate account. Until distribution, each account shall participate in the allocation of earnings and appreciation or depreciation of assets.

If the employment of a participant is terminated for any cause other than death or total disability prior to the attainment of the age of 55 years, any distribution will be based on the number of years the participant participated in the Plan. The portion of the account to be distributed will be equal to all the employee's contributions and related earnings, plus 33 1/3% of the remainder of the balance (the employer's matching contribution, forfeitures and related earnings) in the separate account for each full year of participation in the Plan up to 100%.

Benefit payments to participants are recorded upon distribution.

Investment Options:

Each participant may direct that all of his contributions and, when the participant is fully vested or attains age 55, all matching employer contributions, be invested in 1% increments in any of the investment funds offered by the Plan. For participants not fully vested and less than 55 years old, all Company matching contributions are deposited in the Nordson Match Stock Fund. A participant who has completed at least three years of service may elect to have his separate account, which is attributable to employer matching contributions and invested in the Nordson Match Stock Fund, transferred to any other investment option.

Table of Contents

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Nordson Employees Savings Trust Plan

2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Accounting:

The Plan's transactions are reported on the accrual basis of accounting.

Investment Valuation:

Investments are reported at fair value. Investments in equity and debt securities traded on a national exchange and mutual funds are valued at the market price on the last business day of the Plan year. Securities traded in the over-the-counter market are valued at the mean between the last reported bid and ask prices. Deposits under group annuity contracts are valued at the fair value, as reported by the insurance companies. Guaranteed investment contracts are valued at contract value which represents contributions and reinvested income, less any withdrawals plus accrued interest. Contract value approximates fair value.

Purchases and sales of securities are recorded on a trade-date basis. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Dividends are recorded on the ex-dividend date.

Interest is calculated and paid using money market interest rates on late transfers of money between the various funds. This is done to record the proper investment earnings within each fund.

Notes Receivable from Participants:

Notes receivable from participants are valued at their unpaid principal balance plus any accrued, but unpaid interest. Interest income on notes receivable from participants is recorded when it is earned. No allowance for credit losses has been recorded as of December 31, 2017 or 2016. Delinquent participant loans are deemed distributions based on the terms of the Plan document.

Use of Estimates:

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Table of Contents

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Nordson Employees Savings Trust Plan

2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, Continued

Plan Termination:

Although it has not expressed any intent to do so, the Company has the right under the Plan to discontinue its contributions at any time and to terminate the Plan subject to the provisions of ERISA. In the event of Plan termination, participants will become 100% vested in their accounts.

Risks and Uncertainties:

The Plan invests in various investment securities. Investment securities are exposed to various risks such as interest rate, market and credit risks. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investment securities, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in the values of investment securities will occur in the near term and that such changes could materially affect participants' account balances and the amounts reported in the Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits.

Reclassifications:

Certain prior year amounts have been reclassified to conform with the current year's presentation.

3 Tax Status

On December 29, 2016, the Internal Revenue Service stated that the Plan, as then designed, was in compliance with the applicable requirements of the Internal Revenue Code. The Plan Administrator and the Plan's tax counsel believe that the Plan is currently designed and being operated in compliance with the applicable requirements of the Internal Revenue Code. Therefore, the Plan's Administrator and tax counsel believe that the Plan was qualified and the related trust was tax-exempt as of the financial statement date.

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require Plan management to evaluate tax positions taken by the Plan and recognize a tax liability if the Plan has taken uncertain tax positions that more-likely-than-not would not be sustained upon examination by applicable taxing authorities. The Plan Administrator has analyzed tax positions taken by the Plan and has concluded that, as of December 31, 2017, there are no uncertain tax positions taken, or expected to be taken, that would require recognition of a liability or disclosure in the financial statements. The Plan is subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdictions. However, currently no audits for any tax periods are in progress.

Table of Contents

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Nordson Employees Savings Trust Plan

4 Fair Value Measurements

Accounting guidance defines fair value as the price that would be received from selling an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. When determining the fair value measurements for assets and liabilities required to be reported at fair value, the Plan considers the principal or most advantageous market in which it would transact and considers assumptions that market participants would use when pricing the asset or liability, such as inherent risk, transfer restrictions and risk of nonperformance.

The guidance also establishes a fair value hierarchy that requires the Plan to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs when measuring fair value. The three levels of inputs that may be used to measure fair value are described as follows:

- * Level 1: Inputs to the valuation methodology are unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets that the Plan has the ability to access.

- * Level 2: Inputs other than Level 1 that are observable, either directly or indirectly, such as quoted prices in active markets for similar assets or liabilities, quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in markets that are not active, or other inputs that are observable or can be corroborated by observable market data.

If the asset or liability has a specified (contractual) term, the Level 2 input must be observable for substantially the full term of the asset or liability.

- * Level 3: Inputs to the valuation methodology are unobservable and significant to the fair value measurement. The asset or liability's fair value measurement level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value measurement. Valuation techniques maximize the use of relevant observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs.

The following is a description of the valuation methodologies used to measure fair value of assets held in the Plan. There have been no changes in the methodologies used at December 31, 2017 and 2016.

Mutual Funds: The mutual funds are public investment vehicles valued using the net asset value (NAV) provided by the administrator of the fund. The NAV is based on the value of the underlying assets owned by the fund. The NAV is a quoted price in an active market, thus the mutual funds are classified within Level 1 of the hierarchy.

Table of Contents

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Nordson Employees Savings Trust Plan

4 Fair Value Measurements, Continued

Money Market Fund: The money market fund is a public investment vehicle that is valued with a NAV of \$1. This NAV is a quoted price in an active market, thus this investment is classified within Level 1 of the hierarchy.

Common/Collective Funds: Common/collective funds are public investment vehicles valued using the NAV provided by the administrator of the fund. The NAV is based on the value of the assets owned by the funds, less liabilities. Participant transactions (purchases and sales) may occur daily. Were the Plan to initiate a full redemption of the common/collective funds, the investment advisor reserves the right to temporarily delay withdrawal from the funds in order to ensure that securities liquidations will be carried out in an orderly business manner. These investments are not quoted on an active market.

Nordson Corporation Common Stock: The stock is valued at the closing price reported on the NASDAQ stock exchange and is classified within Level 1 of the hierarchy.

Investment Contract: This is an investment in a group annuity contract with Hartford Life, which guarantees a fixed interest rate each year. The asset is valued at the fair value as reported by Hartford Life. This value is calculated monthly and is the sum of amounts invested, less withdrawals, plus interest computed at the guaranteed interest rate. This contract does not hold any specific assets. This investment is classified within Level 3 of the hierarchy.

Annuity: This annuity is invested with National Western Life. The asset is valued at contract value, as reported by National Western Life. This value is the sum of the amounts invested, less withdrawals, plus simple interest at the guaranteed rate, earned daily, compounded annually. This investment is classified within Level 3 of the hierarchy.

Investments measured at fair value on a recurring basis consisted of the following types of instruments as of December 31, 2017:

	Fair Value Measurements Using Input Type:			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Money Market Fund	\$ 18,920,473	\$	\$	\$ 18,920,473
Mutual Funds	278,474,821			278,474,821
Investment Contract			52,736,875	52,736,875
Annuity			62,579	62,579
Nordson Corporation Common Stock	84,435,468			84,435,468
Total Investments in the Fair Value Hierarchy	\$ 381,830,762	\$	\$ 52,799,454	434,630,216
Investments measured at Net Asset Value:				
Common/Collective Funds				86,361,857

Total Investments at Fair Value

\$ 520,992,073

-10-

Table of Contents

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Nordson Employees Savings Trust Plan

4 Fair Value Measurements, Continued

Investments measured at fair value on a recurring basis consisted of the following types of instruments as of December 31, 2016:

	Fair Value Measurements Using Input Type:			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Money Market Fund	\$ 21,454,771	\$	\$	\$ 21,454,771
Mutual Funds	228,917,387			228,917,387
Investment Contract			51,201,190	51,201,190
Annuity			60,172	60,172
Nordson Corporation				
Common Stock	69,789,782			69,789,782
Total Investments in the Fair Value Hierarchy	\$ 320,161,940	\$	\$ 51,261,362	371,423,302
Investments measured at Net Asset Value:				
Common/Collective Funds				70,502,280
Total Investments at Fair Value				\$ 441,925,582

The table below sets forth the changes in fair value of the Plan's Level 3 assets for the year ended December 31, 2017:

	Investment Contract	Annuity	Total
Balance Beginning of the Year	\$ 51,201,190	\$ 60,172	\$ 51,261,362
Investment income	1,535,685	2,407	1,538,092
Balance End of the Year	\$ 52,736,875	\$ 62,579	\$ 52,799,454

The table below sets forth the changes in fair value of the Plan's Level 3 assets for the year ended December 31, 2016:

	Investment Contract	Annuity	Total
Balance Beginning of the Year	\$ 49,708,878	\$ 111,498	\$ 49,820,376
Investment income	1,492,312	2,202	1,494,514
Sales		(53,528)	(53,528)

Edgar Filing: NORDSON CORP - Form 11-K

Balance End of the Year	\$ 51,201,190	\$ 60,172	\$ 51,261,362
-------------------------	---------------	-----------	---------------

-11-

Table of Contents

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Nordson Employees Savings Trust Plan

4 Fair Value Measurements, Continued

The following table represents the Plan's Level 3 financial instruments, the valuation techniques used to measure the fair value of those financial instruments, the significant unobservable inputs and the ranges of value for those inputs as of December 31, 2017 and 2016:

Instrument	Fair Value	Principal	Unobservable Inputs	Range of	Weighted
		Valuation		Significant Input	
		Technique		Values	
Investment contract	\$52,736,875 (2017); \$51,201,190 (2016)	Amounts invested, less withdrawals, plus interest at guaranteed rate	Guaranteed interest rates	3.0% for 2017 and 2016	N/A
Annuity	\$62,579 (2017); \$60,172 (2016)	Amounts invested, less withdrawals, plus interest at guaranteed rate	Guaranteed interest rates	Two tiers, one at 4.0% and one at 6.0% (2017 & 2016)	N/A

5 Non-Participant-Directed Investments

Information about the net assets and the significant components of changes in net assets related to non-participant-directed investments, which are included within the Nordson Corporation Stock Fund and Wells Fargo Advantage Government Money Market Fund, is as follows:

	2017	2016
Nordson Match Stock Fund		
Net Assets:		
Nordson Corporation Common Stock	\$ 27,637,860	\$ 21,813,276
Wells Fargo Advantage Government Money Market Fund	876,216	777,356
Dividends receivable	59,149	54,168

\$ 28,573,225 \$ 22,644,800

Changes in Net Assets:		
Contributions	\$ 883,901	\$ 822,154
Interest and dividend income	223,962	210,434
Net unrealized/realized appreciation	6,571,642	9,629,790
Distributions to participants	(1,065,067)	(589,061)
Net transfers to participant-directed funds	(686,013)	(932,651)
	\$ 5,928,425	\$ 9,140,666

-12-

Table of Contents

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Nordson Employees Savings Trust Plan

6 Party-in-Interest Transactions

Certain legal, accounting and administrative expenses are paid by the Company. The Plan also invests in the common stock of the Company. John Hancock Retirement Plan Services (John Hancock) provides certain administrative services to the Plan pursuant to a service agreement between the Company and John Hancock. John Hancock receives revenue from certain mutual fund companies or other investment providers pursuant to service agreements that John Hancock maintains in connection with services provided to the Plan. The revenue is used to offset certain amounts owed to John Hancock for its administrative services to the Plan. If the revenue received by John Hancock exceeds the required amount under the Plan s service agreement, the excess is remitted to the Plan as a service fee credit, which is used to pay administrative expenses of the Plan. To the extent that the service fee credits exceed the Plan s administrative expense, the excess will be allocated on an annual basis to participants with account balances as of March 31 of the following year.

7 Diversification

An employee who has participated under the Nordson Corporation Non-Union Employees Stock Ownership Plan for 10 or more years and who has attained age 55 may elect, within the 90-day election period following the close of each Plan year during his qualified period, to transfer up to 25% of the aggregate balance of his separate account from the Nordson Corporation Non-Union Employees Stock Ownership Plan to the Nordson Employees Savings Trust Plan. For the last Plan year in his qualified period, he may elect to transfer up to 50% of the aggregate balance of his separate account. The qualified period is the six Plan year period beginning with the Plan year following the Plan year in which the participant attains age 55 or completes 10 years as a participant, whichever is later.

8 Prohibited Transactions

During the Plan year ended December 31, 2017, employee withholdings in the amount of \$159 were not remitted by the Company to the Plan within the required timeframe, as defined by ERISA. This transaction constitutes a prohibited transaction. The Company has remitted the contributions to the Plan and followed the appropriate correction guidelines.

9 Subsequent Events

Management evaluates events occurring through the date the financial statements are available to be issued in determining the accounting for and disclosure of transactions and events that affect the financial statements.

Effective January 1, 2018, eligible employees of Plas-Pak Industries, Inc. became participants in the Plan.

Table of Contents

SCHEDULE OF ASSETS HELD FOR INVESTMENT PURPOSES AT END OF YEAR

Form 5500, Schedule H, Part IV, Line 4i

Nordson Employees Savings Trust Plan

EIN 34-0590250

Plan Number 002

December 31, 2017

(b)

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
Identity of Issuer, Borrower, Lessor or Similar Party	Description of Investment Including Maturity Date, Rate of Interest, Collateral, Par or Maturity Value	Cost**	Current Value	
Baron Small Cap Fund (Institutional Class)	1,016,475 Shares, Mutual Fund	N/A	\$ 29,833,537	
Hartford Life	3.00% Group Annuity Contract #30237401	N/A	52,736,875	
KeyBank NA Managed Guaranteed Investment Contract Fund	680,157 Shares, Guaranteed Investment Contract	N/A	18,118,844	
Loomis Sayles Core Plus Bond Fund (Class Y)	2,511,836 Shares, Mutual Fund	N/A	32,754,339	
Mainstay Balanced Fund (Class I)	1,187,088 Shares, Mutual Fund	N/A	38,865,277	
Mainstay Large Cap Growth (Class I)	5,040,808 Shares, Mutual Fund	N/A	48,946,247	
Mainstay S&P 500 Index Fund (Class I)	1,224,685 Shares, Mutual Fund	N/A	59,544,167	
MFS Institutional International Equity Fund	339,426 Shares, Mutual Fund	N/A	8,641,792	
MFS International New Discovery Fund (Class R4)	681,211 Shares, Mutual Fund	N/A	23,617,570	
National Western Annuities	62,579 Shares, Group Annuity Contract	N/A	62,579	
* Nordson Corporation Common Stock	387,962 Shares, Common Stock	N/A	56,797,608	
* Nordson Corporation Common Stock	188,783 Shares, Common Stock	\$13,210,192	27,637,860	
Northern Trust Focus 2015 Fund Tier N	23,042 Shares, Collective Fund	N/A	3,812,516	
	65,749 Shares, Collective Fund	N/A	11,233,256	

Northern Trust Focus 2020 Fund Tier N				
Northern Trust Focus 2025 Fund Tier N	74,097	Shares, Collective Fund	N/A	13,161,175
Northern Trust Focus 2030 Fund Tier N	76,513	Shares, Collective Fund	N/A	14,388,983
Northern Trust Focus 2035 Fund Tier N	26,313	Shares, Collective Fund	N/A	5,221,986
Northern Trust Focus 2040 Fund Tier N	32,391	Shares, Collective Fund	N/A	6,527,156
Northern Trust Focus 2045 Fund Tier N	15,654	Shares, Collective Fund	N/A	3,150,649
Northern Trust Focus 2050 Fund Tier N	15,908	Shares, Collective Fund	N/A	3,197,330
Northern Trust Focus 2055 Fund Tier N	37,577	Shares, Collective Fund	N/A	7,549,963
T. Rowe Price Institutional Large Cap Value Fund	618,314	Shares, Mutual Fund	N/A	14,456,180
Vanguard Mid Cap Index Fund (Institutional Class)	515,494	Shares, Mutual Fund	N/A	21,815,711
Wells Fargo Advantage Government Money Market Fund	876,216	Shares, Money Market Fund	\$ 876,216	876,216
Wells Fargo Advantage Government Money Market Fund	18,044,257	Shares, Money Market Fund	N/A	18,044,257
				520,992,073
* Participant loans	Participant loans (interest ranging from 3.25% to 8.25%)		N/A	7,600,368
				\$ 528,592,441

* Party-in-interest to the Plan.

** Historical cost provided only for non-participant-directed investments.

Table of Contents

SCHEDULE OF REPORTABLE TRANSACTIONS

Form 5500, Schedule H, Part IV, Line 4j

Nordson Employees Savings Trust Plan

EIN 34-0590250

Plan Number 002

December 31, 2017

(a) Identity of Party Involved	(b) Description of Asset	(c) Purchase Price	(d) Selling Price	(e) Lease with Rent	(f) Expense Incurred Transaction	(g) Cost of Asset	(h) Current Value of Asset on Transaction Date	(i) Net Gain (Loss)
Category (iii)	Series of transactions of the same issue in excess of 5% of plan assets							
John Hancock Trust Company LLC	Wells Fargo Advantage Government Money Market Fund	\$ 42,942,960	\$	\$	\$	\$ 42,942,960	\$ 42,942,960	\$
John Hancock Trust Company LLC	Wells Fargo Advantage Government Money Market Fund	\$	\$ 42,933,112	\$	\$	\$ 42,933,112	\$ 42,933,112	\$

Table of Contents

SCHEDULE OF DELINQUENT CONTRIBUTIONS

Form 5500, Schedule H, Line 4a

Nordson Employees Savings Trust Plan

EIN 34-0590250

Plan Number 002

December 31, 2017

Participant Contributions	Total that Constitute Nonexempt Prohibited Transactions			Total Fully
Transferred Late to Plan Check Here if Late Participant Loan Repayments are	Contributions Not Corrected	Contributions Corrected Outside VFCP	Contributions Pending Correction in VFCP	Corrected Under VFCP and PTE 2002-51
Included \$159		\$159		

Table of Contents

Exhibits

The following exhibit is filed herewith:

Exhibit No.

23-a Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm
SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the trustees (or other persons who administer the employee benefit plan) have duly caused this annual report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

NORDSON EMPLOYEES SAVINGS TRUST PLAN

Date: June 27, 2018

By /s/ Gregory A. Thaxton
Gregory A. Thaxton
Executive Vice President and Chief Financial
Officer
Nordson Corporation